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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

20 MAY 1986

OCA 86-1623

The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton, Chairman  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter received 12 May regarding equal treatment for both House and Senate. We have long had a policy of treating the two Committees in the same fashion, and as far as I can determine, this policy has been successfully implemented with few exceptions. Accordingly, I agree with you that like information should be made available to the two Committees at approximately the same time.

Your letter questions whether briefings on the nuclear accident in the Soviet Union were not provided in greater detail and more expeditiously to the Senate than to the House Intelligence Committee. Actually, staff directors of both Committees were called on Tuesday afternoon, 29 April, and briefing arrangements were made with your Committee for 9:00 a.m. on 30 April. The Senate Committee did not request a briefing and was not briefed. However, Senate Majority Leader Dole and Minority Leader Byrd asked for a briefing of interested Senators, and this was presented at 7:00 p.m. on 29 April. These arrangements appear to me to meet the objective of making the briefings available to the House and Senate in an equitable fashion..

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

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FROM:

David D. Gries *DB*  
Director of Congressional Affairs

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TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

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